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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

DESIRE, GREGORY M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/909,202

Applicant(s)

NAGEL ET AL.

Examiner

Gregory M. Desire

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.
- 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 13-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-7, 13-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dutta et al (6,724,370).

Regarding claim 1 Dutta discloses,

A text input area (which reads on fig. 5 block 502) residing in a predetermined portion of a touch-enable input screen (note col. 3 lines 53-54, examiner interprets the display which includes a touch screen keyboard and stylus as the text input area which resides in the same predetermined location as display.

A word entry area in said text input area (note fig. 5 block 506 in connection with col. 3 lines 54-55, data entry area enters word) ;

A character entry area in said text entry area (note fig. 5 block 504 and col. 3 lines 56-60, the touch screen keyboard enters characters); and

A recognition engine (which reads on processor fig. 2 block 204 and col. 3 lines 12-15) configured to recognize words written in the text input area (note col. 6 lines 30-

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36, lines cite recognizing words written on display) and individual characters written in the word entry area (note col. 5 lines 33-40, recognizes characters in data entry area)

Regarding claim 2 Dutta discloses,

Including memory storing one or more dictionaries (note col. 5 lines 36-37 includes library), said recognition engine matching each handwritten word against words in said one or more dictionaries (note col. 5 lines 35-40 selected word identifying with subset of possible words), providing a probability score indicative of the likelihood that each given word is correct interpretation of the handwritten input word (note col. 5 lines 45-50, identifying word highest likelihood is determined).

Regarding claim 3 Dutta discloses,

A pop-up word list displaying words identified by said recognition engine as being likely matches for handwritten word entry (note fig. 808-816 in connection with col. 6 lines 32-35 shows a word list of likely matches, words pop-up from memory to be displayed); and

A pop-up character list displaying characters identified by said recognition engine as being likely matches for a character entry (note col. 5 lines 35-38, display a list of characters identified likely characters for entry, characters pop-up from memory to be displayed).

Regarding claim 4 Dutta discloses,

One or more action icons on a side of said touch-enabled screen (note fig. 8 bottom side of touch screen keyboard, shows action buttons).

Regarding claim 5 Dutta discloses,

Wherein selecting one of said icons selects an editing operation selected from the group consisting of: inserting a space, backspacing, deleting, capitalizing recognition result and undoing insertion of last word recognition results (note fig. 8, some of keyboard functions include inserting spacing, backspacing, deleting, and capitalizing).

Regarding claim 6 Dutta discloses,

Wherein a stylus entry outside of said text input area select one or more characters of a previously entered word, whereby characters are entered said character replacing said selected one or more characters (note col. 2 lines 54-54, keypad receive user inputs i.e. stylus entry, the keypad is outside of the screen (text input area).

Regarding claim 13 Dutta discloses.

Receiving an entry from a text input screen area (note fig. 5 block 502 in connection with col. 2 lines 53-54, display receive entry from text input screen area)

Determining whether said received entry was made in word entry (note fig. 5, 506, receiving in that area determines whether was made in word entry) or in a

character entry area on the screen input area (note fig. 5 block 504, receiving a touch screen keyboard entry determines character entry area).

Passing said received entry to a handwritten recognition engine (which reads on processor fig. 2 block 204 and col. 3 lines 12-15) entries determined to have been made in said word entry area being recognized as handwritten words (note fig. 5 block 506 figure shows, entries been made in word entry area) and entries determined to have been made in said character entry area being recognized as character entries (note fig. 5 block 504 entries made in character entry area), said recognition engine identifying matching words for word entries and matching characters fro character entries (note col. 5 lines 34-40 and col. 6 lines 29-35, lines identify matching words and matching character for entry).

Regarding claim 14 Dutta discloses,

Receiving a probability score from said recognition engine, said probability score indicating a likelihood that a corresponding stored entry matches said received entry, said stored entry being a dictionary entry for a handwritten word entry and a character entry for a character entry (lines cite the probability of occurrence from library of words (note col. 5 lines 35-48); and

Displaying a list of one or more stored entries in descending order according to said probability score (identify list of word with high probability of use).

Regarding claim 15 Dutta discloses,

Repeating steps a-e for a plurality of character entries, said plurality of character entries, said plurality of character entries being concatenated to form a character string. (The examiner interprets repeating step as character inputs are repeated forming a word as shown in fig. 5 block 506).

Regarding claim 18 Dutta discloses,

Wherein said character string is stored in one of said one or more dictionaries for subsequent word recognition (note col. 5 lines 35-36 and fig. 9 block 912, selected candidate is in position following previous data, thus stored).

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beernink et al (5,680,480).

Regarding claim 19 Beernink discloses,

Means for receiving textual input, textual input including handwritten words and individual characters (note col. 5 lines 38-41 and fig. 2, T in connection with col. 6 lines 19-23; the figure and lines show a text object which is input, including words and within words includes individual characters, the text input is written on a screen with a stylus, thus words and characters are handwritten)

Means for converting said textual input into one or more characters (note col. 6 lines 21-23, text input which is described as strokes is converted into printed words, examiner interprets as more than one character).

Mean for storing a plurality of correctly spelled words (note col. 7 lines 46-55, the database stores plurality of candidate words, it is inherent that these words from the database/dictionary is correctly spelled).

Mean for providing a probability score indicating a likelihood that a corresponding string of one or more characters matches said textual input (note fig. 3b block 92 in connection with col. 9 lines 4-10, examiner interprets the confidence level as probability score, it indicates likelihood that a word candidate matches a input word).

Mean for selecting a list one or more characters stings for display in descending order according to said probability score (note fig. 3b-3d, shows a candidate list of words (one or more character strings) for display in descending order according to said probability score (confidence, examiner interprets as probability score).

Regarding claim 20 Beernink discloses,

Means for determining whether a textual input is a single character or handwritten word (note col. 18 lines 15-25, lines cite a preference that instruct recognizer to immediately determine a handwritten word).

Regarding claim 21 Beernink discloses,

Means for converting textual input into one or more characters converts said textual input into a single character when said input is determined to be a single character and into a word when said input is determined to be a handwritten word (note col. 6 lines 19-23 a completed input of several characters make-up of a word, an individual input is a character).

Regarding claim 22 Beernink discloses,

Wherein said probability score indicates the likelihood that a corresponding store correctly spelled word matches a handwritten entry when said input is determined to be a handwritten word and the likelihood that a corresponding character matches an input character when said textual input is determined to be a single character (note fig. 7 blocks 180, 182 and 184 a best score is indicated determining whether a word matches a handwritten entry, the figures distinguishes a word from a character, because it compares the length of a word, a comparison when a string has 1 character length examiner interprets as a character, a comparison when a string has more than 1 character length examiner interprets as a word.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dutta et al in view of Imoto (6,275,612).

Regarding claim 16,

Dutta discloses forming a character string. However, Dutta is silent disclosing a character string is a uniform resource locator (URL). Imoto discloses input a character string that is a URL in an application for browsing the internet (note col. 4 lines 60-65 and col. 5 lines 57-64). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include forming character string that is a URL in the system of Dutta. Browsing the internet would have been a highly desirable feature in pda technology due to its communication link between a pda and a network. Imoto recognizes that browsing the internet would be expected when the character string formed that is a URL in Imoto is included in Dutta.

7. Claims 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dutta et al in view of Capps et al. (6,512,525).

Regarding claim 17,

Dutta discloses forming a character string. However, Dutta is silent disclosing a character string is an email address. Capps discloses input a character string that is an email address to associate persona information (note col. 3 lines 15-25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include forming character string that is a an email address in the system of Dutta. Associating persona information would have been a highly desirable feature in

pda technology due to its addressing and mailbox functions. Capps recognizes that associating persona information would be expected when the character string formed that is an email address in Capps is included in Dutta.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 7-12 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for independent claim 7. Claim 7 includes extensive limitations. The critical element of the claimed invention is text input area having both word area and character area. The claim further limits the invention, text input area residing at a lower portion of input screen, said text entry area including a word entry area and character entry area. Thus, touch screen keyboard as character area and display screen as text input area couldn't be interpreted to meet the limitations of the claims. Thus, overcoming Dutta and prior art. Claims 8-12 depend on claim 7. Therefore are also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory M. Desire whose telephone number is (703) 308-9586. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00) Second Monday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Gregory M. Desire
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

G.D.
August 6, 2004

